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avoid dangers and risks which the average man has not the courage to face or the skill to avoid.

The volume closes with a very complete bibliography, covering every phase of the subject. On the whole, there is probably, at the present time, no single work that will better repay reading by the student who wishes to gain a comprehensive view of the subject of distribution.

T. N. CARVER.

OBERLIN COLLEGE, OHIO.

Der Arbeiterschutz: Seine Theorie und Politik. Von Dr. Kuno Frankenstein. (Hand- und Lehrbuch der Staatswissenschaften. 1. Abteilung: Volkwirtschaftslehre, 14. Band.) Leipzig, C. L. Hirschfeld, 1896.—x, 384 pp.

Dr. Frankenstein says the object of his book is twofold: to serve as a text-book on the subject of protection for the laboring class, and to indicate to the layman the present legal status of such protection in the leading countries of the world. He does not aim to present a picture of the social status of the laboring man, as he deems insufficient the material at present available. He also touches but lightly on the history of social progress, as a separate volume on this subject is promised for this same series.

The different elements contributing to the material and moral aid of the laboring class are grouped as follows: (1) the state as protector; (2) self-help by means of trades-unions, cooperative societies, etc.; (3) the influence of special social institutions, such as the family, the schools and the church; (4) all the varied forms of charity for their relief, entertainment and elevation. Dr. Frankenstein is an ardent defender of the Katheder-Sozialisten and apparently a disciple of Schäffle. He would have the state regulate hours of employment, periods of rest, etc., not only for women and children, but also for men. In his judgment a working day of eleven hours would at the present time be feasible for Germany without injury to the entrepreneur, while a further reduction to ten hours is possible. advocates radical legislation for securing rest from labor on Sunday; for all the recent agitation and law-making on that subject in Germany seem to him but a step in the right direction and far within the limits of what ought to be done. From these few examples of his views on the duties of the state toward the laboring class, it may be seen that Dr. Frankenstein belongs to the ever-increasing army of moderates, who oppose the individualists on one side as strenuously as they do the socialists on the other.

For the student the greatest value of the book lies in the comprehensive survey of the legal measures for the protection of labor taken by the leading countries, more especially by those on the Continent, and, naturally, most of all by the German Empire. A distinctly welcome feature of the book is the bibliography on pages 319 to 384. While by no means complete, it is, as it stands, the best available general list, and is especially valuable for the German periodical literature, which it cites very fully. A minor fault is the very frequent misspelling of English book-titles; a much greater one, however, is the absence of an index, the lack of which, in spite of the detailed table of contents, is a marked hindrance in using the book for reference.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Race Traits and Tendencies of the American Negro. By FRED-ERICK L. HOFFMAN. Publications of the American Economic Association, Vol. XI, Nos. 1, 2 and 3. New York, Macmillan & Co., 1896. — 329 pp.

In this monograph Mr. Hoffman endeavors to prove that the American negro is deteriorating. It has been a popular belief that under our fostering civilization the freed negro is increasing in numbers so rapidly as to menace our republican institutions; but after reading Mr. Hoffman's work, all such ideas must be abandoned. His logic is convincing, and his data, collected with difficulty and taken mainly from city records or the census reports, point to the one conclusion that the race of negroes is on the downward grade.

The author first shows that the proportion of the colored population to the total population of the United States has fallen from 18.10 in 1830 to 14.13 in 1860 and 11.93 in 1890. This decrease is apparent in Southern as well as in Northern states. He also points out that the negroes tend, on the one hand, to concentrate in the cities, where they occupy undesirable and unsanitary districts, and on the other, to migrate to Southern rural sections in which the colored population already preponderates. Thus, in sixteen large Southern cities, where the white population increased 94.11 per cent during the decade 1880-90, the colored population increased 262.6 per cent; whereas in ten Southern states where the white population increased 51.19 per cent, the negro population increased only 50.93 per cent. Furthermore, in the cities the negroes are mainly concentrated in a